

friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

# SHORT SEA SHIPPING TAX EXEMPTION ACT OF 2005

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I, along with Congressman CHRISTOPHER SHAYS of Connecticut, introduce the Short Sea Shipping Tax Exemption Act of 2005. The purpose of this legislation is to encourage cargo shipment along America's coastlines and major waterways in a new and innovative fashion.

With our rail lines and highways at full capacity and a growing economy and population, America must find new ways to help cargo be transported. The end result being the creation of a blue water highway that has robust cargo traffic in and out of America's ports.

Currently vessels are subject to the Harbor Maintenance Tax each and every time when servicing a port. This tax precludes many vessels from going to many American ports in a sequential fashion. This legislation would eliminate that tax and thus remove a barrier to Short Sea Shipping. Without this tax in place a cargo vessel could travel from Port Canaveral in Florida, to Baltimore and then onto New York without having to pay the tax. The tax would remain for the larger, ocean-going cargo ships.

For Short Sea Shipping/Blue Water Highway to become a reality, it will take more than the removal of the Harbor Maintenance Tax for the unique vessels needed for Short Sea Shipping, but this a good first step.

# IN HONOR OF THE YOUNG AMERICA FOUNDATION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, recently, ROTC programs and military recruiters have been under attack on college campuses across the nation. Some of our nation's leading institutions of higher learning have banned military recruiters from their campuses altogether. Not only does this weaken our military at a time of war, but it also denies students the right to serve their country while attending college.

During a time of war, it is imperative for America to have a military that can aggressively and effectively combat terrorism. As the father of two ROTC cadets at Francis Marion University and Clemson University, and as an ROTC graduate of Washington and Lee University who has served 31 years in the Army Reserve and South Carolina Army National Guard, I understand the importance of an educated and qualified volunteer force. Young leaders, such as my sons, Alan and Julian, should have the opportunity to both serve their country and advance their education through programs like ROTC. By banning military recruiting and ROTC programs from colleges,

access to America's talented future leaders is being denied.

Recently The Washington Times published an article that discusses ROTC and some of Young America's Foundation's activities in support of ROTC and ROTC students. The article also tells the story of Lauren Daugherty, a student at Emory University, which does not offer ROTC. Miss Daugherty commutes four times weekly to a ROTC program at Georgia Tech, receives no credit for her classes, and is harassed by students when she wears her uniform on campus.

Young America's Foundation, a nonprofit group that is also preserving and protecting Ronald Reagan's Ranch, supports our young men and women in ROTC. For years, Young America's Foundation has sponsored speakers and other programs defending ROTC. From making attacks on ROTC programs and students known to Congress to providing speakers on college campuses who defend ROTC and ROTC students, Young America's Foundation is a welcome ally in making ROTC available to college students.

A second article, from the Young America's Foundation publication *Libertas*, describes several efforts to restore student rights to participate in ROTC on campuses across the nation. At Columbia University concerned students received 65% support from a referendum circulated to reinstate the school's ROTC program. The university's senate then formed an "ROTC Task Force" made up of students and faculty to discuss the issue. Students at Yale soon followed and started a "Bring Back ROTC" campaign. Their goal is to collect more than two thousand signatures on a petition that would force discussions between the group and the administration. The Young America's Foundation works directly with student-based grass roots operations like these every year. In the past they have given organizational support for campaigns to protect ROTC, and have arranged speakers to address students on campuses about the importance of ROTC.

The courageous efforts of students who stand up against anti-military faculties and administrations represent minority rights on campuses. It is detrimental to our national security to let anti-military institutions of higher learning weaken our armed forces. I commend the efforts of the Young America's Foundation, and other student led groups who fight for a strong national defense and freedom of association.

I ask that these two articles regarding the Young America's Foundation and their support for military recruiting and ROTC be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. "Youth Group backs ROTC on campus" The Washington Times. Thursday, April 14, 2005. Price, Joyce Howard. "Students Willing to Defend Our Country Ridiculed on Many Campuses" *Libertas*, Vol. 26, No. 2, Spring 2005. Rasmussen, Scott.

(From the Washington Times, Apr. 14, 2005)

## YOUTH GROUP BACKS ROTC ON CAMPUS

(By Joyce Howard Price)

A nonprofit conservative youth outreach group that owns Ronald Reagan's former California ranch is fighting what it sees as liberal efforts to abolish ROTC programs on college campuses nationwide, including one in its own backyard.

"ROTC programs on college campuses are under attack by professors and leftists, so Young America's Foundation is stepping for-

ward to honor these young men and women, who sacrifice so much to protect the freedoms we enjoy," the group stated.

YAF especially is concerned about the future of a Reserve Officer Training Corps program in its own neighborhood at the University of California at Santa Barbara, which it sees as being threatened.

Because of its concerns, YAF honored 45 cadets from that program and their instructors at a barbecue at the Reagan Ranch April 9.

"ROTC programs have been an issue since the Vietnam War, and some colleges and universities have not had them for 30 years," said Andrew Coffin, spokesman for the Reagan Ranch.

At that time, students opposed to the Vietnam War argued the presence of ROTC suggested institutional support for the conflict.

"Now because of the Iraq war, ROTC has become an issue against, and efforts are under way on some campuses by anti-military professors and students" to eliminate these programs, Mr. Coffin added.

YAF also is worried about the situation at UCSB where an effort has begun to end a military presence on campus.

"It is not fair to say the university is considering closing down the [military science] program, but it has been asked to consider closing it down" by a few critics, said UCSB spokesman Paul Desruisseaux.

He added that the university's chancellor, Henry T. Yang, has "not weighed in" with an official position.

Recent articles in the *Princetonian*, Princeton's student newspaper, indicate that a small group of students there have started a referendum drive to end its ROTC program because of discrimination concerns.

But a group striving to retain ROTC also has formed.

Among those in attendance at YAF's April 9 barbecue was Lauren Daugherty, a student at Emory University, which does not offer ROTC. Miss Daugherty said she had to commute four times weekly to an ROTC program at Georgia Tech.

When she wore her camouflage uniform on Emory's campus, Miss Daugherty told The Washington Times that she was "called a 'baby killer' and spat at."

Mr. Coffin said Miss Daugherty "received no credit whatsoever for her ROTC participation, but added that she "ultimately triumphed" because today she is a Marine Corps Officer candidate.

In the hope of invigorating ROTC, Congress passed legislation, signed by President Bush, that prohibits schools from receiving federal funds if they fail to permit ROTC units or military recruiters on their campuses.

## STUDENTS WILLING TO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY RIDICULED ON MANY CAMPUSES

(By Scott Rasmussen, Sarah T. Hermann, Intern Scholar)

The anti-military and anti-Vietnam agenda is returning to America's campuses. Once again, refusing students the right to participate in the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program is at the top of that agenda.

Not far from the Reagan Ranch, seventeen faculty members at the University of California-Santa Barbara (UCSB) voted in support of a proposal to bar its students from seeking careers in the military. The resolution, presented on January 20 of this year by Professor Emeritus Thomas J. Scheff, claims the federal government's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is grounds for banning military recruiters because it violates the First Amendment. The proposal also calls for a review of the school's ROTC program.

This is not a new phenomenon. Administrators and professors across the country use the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy as a rationale to attack ROTC. Never

mind that by banning ROTC units from campuses these protestors are themselves practicing a form of discrimination. This is a tactic that happens too often. Principles of equality, free speech, and freedom of expression seem to apply only to colleges and universities when they are ideologically expedient.

ROTC units are banned currently from several universities including Brown, Harvard, Stanford, and Yale. Students who attend these universities and wish to participate in ROTC programs must travel, often at their own expense, to neighboring campuses. ROTC cadets frequently are the subjects of ridicule on their own campuses. Despite the recent setbacks at UCSB, headway is being made in the struggle to ensure the rights of students are protected.

Columbia University in New York City banned ROTC in 1969 in an effort to appease liberals. The end of the Vietnam War brought an end to the protesting, however the ban remains in place. That ban is now coming under intense fire thanks to efforts by Advocates for Columbia ROTC, an on-campus student group. Sponsored by the powerful Students United for America, another student organization, the Advocates for Columbia ROTC is making a significant push to bring back ROTC. In a student referendum two years ago, 65% wanted their rights to participate in ROTC restored. In the fall of 2004, students authored a proposal to reinstitute ROTC at Columbia and presented it to the university's senate. The senate then created an "ROTC Task Force" made up of faculty and students to discuss the proposal. On February 15 the task force held a "town hall" meeting to gather information for a report to be presented to the university's trustees who will make the final decision concerning ROTC's fate at Columbia. After six months of deliberation, the task force split 5-5 on whether or not to restore ROTC to Columbia immediately.

Columbia's student-led movement may restore student rights to participate in ROTC. Articles, editorials, and letters voicing support for ROTC's return fill the student newspaper. A Columbia professor who opposed students' rights to participate in ROTC in 1969 is now calling for Columbia to cooperate with military recruiting efforts.

The potential reform at Columbia is a threat to leftists at other Ivy League schools that bar students from participating in ROTC and meeting with military recruiters on campus.

Students at Yale took notice and started their own "Bring Back ROTC" campaign. Yale students hope to garner two thousand signatures on a petition that would encourage increased discussions between the administration and those who want to see ROTC return.

Some student groups are going on the offensive to ensure their rights to participate in ROTC are protected. For example, students at Cornell are circulating a petition applauding the administration's support for ROTC, saying that a ban "would be an embarrassment to Cornell and a detriment to our armed forces." In the midst of a heated debate about military recruiters, students at Princeton formed a coalition to voice support for the ROTC program and its cadets.

These developments are encouraging. The students at Columbia and Yale are discovering that they have voices, and if they organize themselves and show strong support, the administration might finally listen.

But what is happening at UCSB is a step backward and demonstrates what may be a growing undercurrent of anti-militarism by faculties. How can we continue to subvert the efforts of those who literally live and die to preserve our freedoms, liberties, and our

very way of life? The men and women who participate in ROTC programs are critical leaders in that war. One ROTC commander described ROTC units as "islands of conservative values in a sea of liberal secondary education. We are training tomorrow's leaders today." Such values and training should be accessible to students no matter what school they choose to attend.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 18, 2005*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to vote on the following suspension bills on July 11, 2005, due to family obligations: H. Con. Res. 168 and H. Res. 333.

I respectfully request that the RECORD reflect that I would have voted "aye" on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 168 and "aye" on agreeing to H. Res. 333.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 18, 2005*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 11, 2005, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 363 and 364. The votes I missed included a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 168, condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the abductions and continued captivity of citizens of the Republic of Korea and Japan as acts of terrorism and gross violations of human rights, and a motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 333, Supporting the goals and ideals of a National Weekend of Prayer and Reflection for Darfur, Sudan.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 363 and 364.

#### COMMENDING THE STATE OF KUWAIT FOR GRANTING WOMEN CERTAIN IMPORTANT POLITICAL RIGHTS

SPEECH OF

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in commending the State of Kuwait for recently granting women important political rights, among them the right of suffrage. Under this new law, passed by the Kuwaiti Parliament on May 17, 2005, Kuwaiti women not only have the right to vote in municipal elections scheduled for later this year and future elections, but they also are now permitted to run for public office.

A few years ago, I had the honor of traveling to Qatar to meet with men and women there. During that journey, it became crystal clear to me that women's suffrage is a uni-

versal human right; one that must be fought for by those of us fortunate enough to possess it. The women of Qatar won the right of suffrage in 1999, and since then have become more involved in their government as their voice is heard for the first time.

Additionally, just last month, I had the pleasure of meeting with a delegation of Kuwaiti women involved in various aspects of Kuwaiti life. I met with Mrs. Lulwa Al-Mullah, Secretary General of Women Social and Cultural Society; Ms. Amal Al-Khaled, Marketing and Public Affairs Director of Kuwait News Agency; Dr. Nada Suliman Al-Mutawa, professor at Arab Open University; Dr. Nibal K. Bourisly, Assistant Professor of Mass Communications at Kuwait University; and Mrs. Aroob Youseff Al-Refa'e, Director of Cultural and Scientific Resources at the National Council for Culture, Art, and Literature. These progressive female leaders work in the areas of university education; human rights, business, public affairs, and communications. They have been active in their society for some time, and now with the right to vote, their contributions will know no bounds.

I join my colleagues in saluting the granting of suffrage to the women of Kuwait. It is imperative that we Members of Congress, as representatives of the most free nation in the world, work to advocate the protection of this right of Kuwaiti women, and I stand by my colleagues in this endeavor.

#### STATEMENT DEFENDING THE HONOR OF OUR TROOPS

### HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 18, 2005*

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the protection we have enjoyed here at home since we took the fight to the enemy has been purchased with the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform. The very least we can do in return is to show them honor and respect when they come home.

According to the Greensboro Herald-Journal, middle school teacher Michael Lund of Anita White Carson Middle School in Greensboro, Georgia had that intention when he invited his old college roommate, Marine Sergeant Zach Richardson to speak to his middle school students about his experiences in Iraq.

The children in Mr. Lund's class had been pen pals with Sergeant Richardson and several of his fellow Marines in Iraq, so everyone was excited about finally getting to meet in person.

Imagine the surprise when he and Mr. Lund were intercepted outside the classroom by School Principal Ulrica Corbett. She demanded Mr. Lund escort Sgt. Richardson off school grounds immediately. Principal Corbett later told the media that Mr. Lund did not have approval for a guest speaker to come on campus.

Mr. Lund produced documentation to prove that he had indeed filed the necessary paperwork well in advance, and that Principal Corbett refused to act on it.

Regardless of the reason, this treatment of one of our heroes returning from Iraq is unacceptable and inexcusable.

Under no circumstances should Sergeant Richardson have been denied the opportunity